

CLASS SPECIFICATION
County of Fairfax, Virginia

CLASS CODE: 5126

TITLE: ECOLOGIST II

GRADE: S-24

DEFINITION:

Under general supervision, performs full-performance level water resources and biological science duties including water quality monitoring, habitat evaluations, stream assessments, wetland delineation, data management and public outreach for stormwater management and watershed planning programs; and performs related work as required.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CLASS:

The Ecologist II differs from the Ecologist III in that the Ecologist II conducts work which is considered full-performance level, whereas the Ecologist III performs advanced, specialized water resources and biological science duties and serves as team leader responsible for managing water quality monitoring programs.

The Ecologist II differs from the Ecologist I in that the Ecologist II conducts work which is considered full-performance level, whereas the Ecologist I either performs work which is, and will continue to be, more routine, less complex and narrower in scope than work at the Ecologist II level, or serves in a trainee capacity with noncompetitive promotional progression to the full-performance Ecologist II level.

ILLUSTRATIVE DUTIES:

Monitors physical, chemical, and biological conditions of the County's streams, lakes, ponds and other water bodies;

Participates in the development of monitoring plans and quality assurance project plans;

Analyzes data and prepares water quality monitoring reports which summarize conditions of streams;

Assesses the impacts of development and stormwater management systems on the ecological health of County streams and stream valleys;

Performs monitoring of stormwater infrastructure and streams in compliance with the Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) Permit for the County's Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4);

Assists in the development of VPDES permit reports;

Conducts and reviews Resource Protection Area (RPA) and wetland delineation studies in accordance with state regulations and the County's Chesapeake Bay Preservation Ordinance;

Manages watershed and stream monitoring data;

Assists in development of stormwater and watershed management plans;

Assists in the selection, design and implementation of stream and wetland restoration projects;

Responds to citizen and business community questions regarding stream conditions;

Performs public outreach activities including the development of brochures, reports and web pages;

Participates in public meetings and educational programs;

Maintains contact databases;

Trains and coordinates volunteers in water quality monitoring to support countywide monitoring efforts.

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES:

Any combination of education, experience, and training equivalent to the following:

Graduation from an accredited college or university with a Bachelor's degree in aquatic ecology, biology, environmental science, limnology, natural resource management or related field; PLUS Two years of experience in water quality monitoring, data analysis and reporting, bioassessments (fish and macroinvertebrates) using standard protocols, and assessments of stream habitat conditions.

EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS:

Any combination of education, experience, and training equivalent to the following:

Graduation from an accredited college or university with a Bachelor's degree in aquatic ecology, biology, environmental science, limnology, natural resource management or related field; PLUS Two years of experience in water quality monitoring, data analysis and reporting, bioassessments (fish and macroinvertebrates) using standard protocols, and assessments of stream habitat conditions.

CERTIFICATES AND LICENSES REQUIRED:

Possession of a valid motor vehicle driver's license.

NECESSARY SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:

None.

ESTABLISHED: February 17, 2004